COCHIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Monday, *the* *3rd of August 1931.* / *18th of Karkadagam 1106.*

The House met at half-past Eleven of the Clock with the President in the Chair. Messrs. K. T. Mathew, C. A. Ouseph, P. K. Subramania Ayyar and P. I. Varugis were absent.

Swearing in of New Members.

Messrs. K. Kunjunni Nayar (Member co-opted for the Tenancy Bill), A. I. Mani (Member for Chalakkudi), V. D. Ouseph (Government Advocate and Law Officer), P. Raman Menon (Member co-opted for the Tenancy Bill) and K. Ramunni Menon (the Conservator of Forests) took and subscribed the oath of allegiance.

Opening Statement by the President.

President.—Hon'ble Members of the Legislative Council:—It is with great pleasure that I welcome you all to this Budget Session of the Council. The Budget Session is perhaps the most important session of the year and its importance is enhanced on this occasion by the period of depression and uncertainty through which we are passing. This depression and uncertainty have necessarily reacted upon the finances of the State and the Budget in consequence requires even more careful consideration than usual. I am sure it will receive from all Hon'ble Members the careful consideration which it deserves. Before I sit down I would request the co-operation of all Hon'ble Members in guiding the deliberations of the Council. We shall now proceed to the next item in the agenda:—

Questions and Answers.

Representative—Round Table Conference.

1. **Mr. A. Eachara Menon.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(i) what was the amount they spent towards educating their representative to the Round Table Conference;

(ii) who was their representative;

(iii) who instructed him;

(iv) what was his (instructor's) remuneration?

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Rama Varmha Tampuran.—(i) No amount has been spent till now.

(ii) Sir Mirza Ismail, the Diwan of Mysore.

(iii) Diwan Bahadur T. Raghaviah Garu, President, Council of Administration, Pudukkotta, was the advisor for the Madras States.

(iv) No remuneration has yet been paid.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Am I to understand from the answer that the representation was of all Indian States?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The whole of the South Indian States.

Agricultural Superintendent.

2. **Mr. A. Eachara Menon.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(i) whether they are considering as to who should be the Agricultural Superintendent when the present incumbent retires on 13th Dhanu 1107;

(ii) whether there are suitable qualified men in the department?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—(i) The fact that the present Superintendent of Agriculture is to retire in the usual course on 13th Dhanu 1107 and that a substitute for the place may be required then, has been noted.

(ii) The question has yet to be decided.

Post-graduate study for Assistant Surgeons.

3. **Mr. A. Eachara Menon.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(i) whether they have any post-graduate study for the Assistant Surgeons of the State;

(ii) if so, what is the nature of it;

(iii) if not, will they consider the utility of giving all the Surgeons some experience in ophthalmology and surgery;

(iv) whether they consider it expedient to entrust these officers fresh from College with surgical and ophthalmic work without some training?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—(i) No.

(ii) No answer is necessary in view of the answer given above.

(iii) Yes. Those officers will be posted to the General Hospital, by turn for a short period in future.

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